

Dear Members of the Connecticut Human Services Committee:

My name is Lidia Diaz, I am from Guatemala and I live in Hartford. I am a member of the Hartford Deportation Defense. I support **HB 6616: An Act Relating to the Expansion of HUSKY Health Benefits for Persons Ineligible Due to Immigration Status.**

I have seen many people who do not have insurance and are going through health problems. It is difficult for them to pay the bills that arrive. I am 41 years old and I am concerned that in the future my family and I or people in my community will not have a way to solve a health problem. I have children born here and I see the difference in having access to HUSKY. I also have a 17-year-old son who was born in Guatemala. He also needs health care. My husband and I both work and are worried about hurting ourselves and then being in a lot of debt.

As an immigrant, I support the passage of HB6616. We have waited so long and we continue to wait for health insurance for everyone, regardless of age, because there is no age in illness.

Thanks for your time,

Lidia Diaz